

Resource Pack

In association with:



GLOBAL TRADE IN GOODS AND SERVICES IS LIKELY TO RISE MORE THAN THREEFOLD TO AROUND £20 TRILLION IN 2030. THAT PUTS PRESSURE ON THE LOGISTICS PROFESSION TO KEEP GOODS MOVING! LOGISTICS IS A MAJOR SECTOR, AND ONE THAT PLAYS AN ESSENTIAL ROLE IN UNDERPINNING AND PROPELLING THE UK AND THE GLOBAL ECONOMY.

Keeping the world moving relies on logistics. Operating alongside the transport and supply chain sectors, logistics deals with the movement of products, supplying companies and individuals across the world with the items they need, when they need them. The collaboration of air, rail, road and sea is vital to make logistics run smoothly. Ever wondered how food makes it to the shelves, clothes get delivered to your door or humanitarian aid is arranged at speed? It's all down to the skill and talent of logisticians.



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Logistics is all about getting the right product to the right place at exactly the right time, so you'll need to be organised, good at planning, able to see the bigger picture and be great with people. Logistics professionals bring their highly efficient, super-organised selves to a profession that often exists in the background, viewed through spreadsheets and time schedules. As automation of these systems increases, and logistics becomes more complex, analytical and e-skills will be critically important.

Advances in technology mean that the logistics profession is one that has moved forward very quickly – the use of drones to deliver parcels, for example, is made possible by logisticians. Other exciting technological developments include the use of robotics and the automation of vehicles – driverless cars and trucks, for example. It's a sector that is directly benefiting from the huge technological advances that are being made – and, by choosing to work within it, you can put yourself at the forefront of this fast-evolving and innovative movement.



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WHAT ARE THE OPPORTUNITIES FOR ME IN LOGISTICS?

Logistics is rich with opportunities and roles are complex, demanding and well-rewarded. Logistics roles include planning, strategy, finance, operations and IT. It's a varied area that employs people with many different backgrounds and talents.

When it comes to the business activities required to keep a customer happy, you can break logistics roles into five key areas: plan, source, make, deliver and enable.



PLAN - developing a course of action that meets the customer's needs



SOURCE - finding quality materials as efficiently as possible



MAKE - creating a product that meets the customer's wishes



DELIVER - getting a product out to customers at the right time, as efficiently as possible



ENABLE - managing data, facilities and people to solve problems and promote a company's growth

FIND OUT MORE AT:
WWW.NOVUS.UK.COM

Resource Pack

YOUR ROUTE INTO LOGISTICS

UNIVERSITY

One way you can pursue a career in logistics as a school leaver is through a university course that is backed by business. These courses offer the best of both worlds: the insights, education and student experience that an undergraduate degree can offer, grounded in the practical world of companies working within the sector.

One of the organisations working with universities to offer sector-led degrees is NOVUS. NOVUS courses are designed by professionals and academic experts to give students the skills, knowledge and experience for a successful career in logistics and supply chain management.

NOVUS is a scheme that works with companies including Nestlé, Sainsbury's, Heineken, Cummins and DHL, offering courses in supply chain management. NOVUS courses, such as those at the University of Huddersfield and Aston University, provide substantial benefits for students and guarantee a management role in the supply chain, logistics or transport sector on graduation.

Here are the courses you can take with NOVUS:

- BSc (Hons) Business and Supply Chain Management (Aston University)
- BA (Hons) Business with Supply Chain Management (University of Huddersfield)
- BSc (Hons) Logistics and Supply Chain Management (University of Huddersfield)

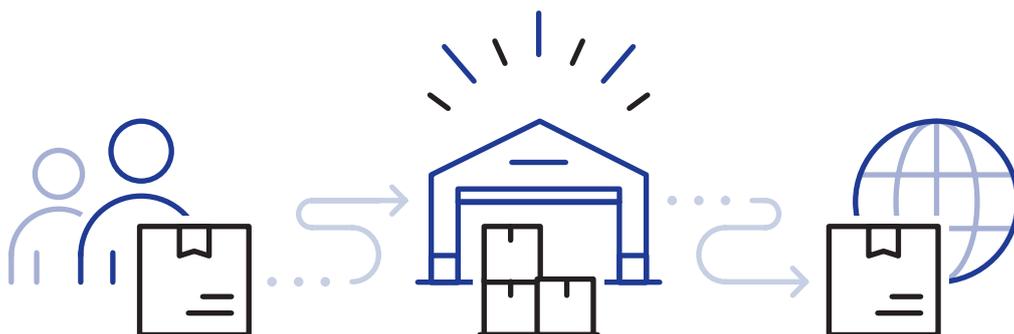
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Courses are accredited by The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in the UK (CILT UK), the leading professional body for the logistics and transport profession, so you can be sure that they're up to date in terms of sector knowledge and practical skills.

NOVUS Lite courses, found at other leading universities like the Universities of Derby and Hull, provide many of the NOVUS benefits, such as a company mentor and well-paid third year placements.

APPRENTICESHIPS

An apprenticeship in logistics will see you studying and working for a company at the same time. You will work alongside experienced staff and will have one day off per week to study, usually at a local technical college or similar. This can be a great route for those who know what they want to do early, and don't want to commit to university.



FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.NOVUS.UK.COM

Tips for Getting a job

Top tips for a career in logistics...

- Display drive and passion for logistics and be able to demonstrate why you have chosen to pursue the sector
- Make sure you know about the company you are applying for and who their main customers and competitors are before you're applying
- Do lots of research into the role and programme you're applying for, and the environment you will be working in
- If you've done any extracurricular activities (such as the Duke of Edinburgh Award or other volunteering) communicate the skills you have learnt and how you would use them in the work place in your application
- Be ready to discuss technology and how it is affecting the logistics sector and be willing to learn continually in order to keep up with the pace of change



Graduate Case Study

In association with:



Lucy Holland

LOGISTICS PROJECT SUPPORT MANAGER @
SAINSBURY'S

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO WORK IN LOGISTICS?

I first became interested in the logistics sector whilst studying transport economics at college, and given this interest, I was recommended by a tutor to research logistics more closely and the courses available.

Given the growing skills shortage in the sector and the varied roles available, I saw a career at the end of university so applied for the logistics course at the University of Huddersfield.

WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ENTAIL?

Within my current role, I work within a team that manages, coordinates and lands change projects across the logistics division. For me, since joining, this has involved new depot builds, system and automation testing and providing project governance and structure on a number of projects.

HOW DID YOU GET YOUR JOB?

I attended a number of presentations from various companies, which were arranged as part of the NOVUS scheme. These sessions initially made me aware of the opportunities available at Sainsbury's and I subsequently joined on my placement year at university.

Graduate Case Study

During this time, I completed a development programme to be a Warehouse Team Manager and spent a further six months working as part of a team on a new depot build project. I then returned to university for my final year and subsequently re-joined Sainsbury's on graduation.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT FROM BEING PART OF THE NOVUS SCHEME?

NOVUS helped me to build a great network very early into my career through the mentoring programme, site visits and talks. The scheme and my links to it have continued to support me in building my network and expanding my experiences since graduating from university.

WHAT IS THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT LIKE ON A NOVUS COURSES?

I found NOVUS to be supportive, collaborative and challenging. As an example, we would complete group coursework in partnership with professionals, which created an environment that reflects the sector and challenged us to apply theory to a real situation. It brought all the students together to collaborate, learn and work towards a common goal.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

For me, the best part of my job is the variety. No two days are the same and my responsibilities and work can be so varied. In addition, the output of what you do is tangible, from walking around a depot you supported in building, to walking through a store knowing that the role you play in logistics ensures and enables the shelves to be stocked.



Graduate Case Study

WHAT NEW SKILLS HAVE YOU LEARNT IN YOUR JOB?

I would say I have developed, applied and refined many of the skills I acquired through university since graduating, from organisational skills and communication skills. I have also developed new skills and technical knowledge of systems, automation, processes and operations.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN FIVE YEARS?

I find it very difficult to say where I will be in five years – quite a broad answer, but I would like to say I will be progressing within Sainsbury's, leading teams, learning new things, meeting new people and generally embracing new challenges as they arise.



FIND OUT MORE AT:

WWW.NOVUS.UK.COM

Graduate Case Study

In association with:



Alex Heard

LOGISTICS AND SUPPLY CHAIN GRADUATE @ DHL

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO WORK IN LOGISTICS?

Logistics is not a profession that is necessarily pushed during education. However, due to doing one of my A-Levels in Business Studies and having a teacher with previous logistics experience, the world was opened up to me as a career path. On completing additional research, I came to learn more of the intricacies, which made me then apply for the course at university.

WHAT DOES YOUR JOB ENTAIL?

I am currently in my first year of the DHL Supply Chain Graduate Scheme. Initially I was working as part of a new DHL business start-up, which gave me a real insight into how to set up a new brand. I was then asked to lead the implementation of a contract into our multi-user warehouse, based at Heathrow Airport, for one of the world's leading airlines. This meant producing a process for the operation, recruiting the people to do it, coordinating with the transport team and acting as a liaison with the customer.

Most recently, I have been working in the operational team, gaining exposure to people management and shift management that will end up giving a well-rounded year in my early career.

HOW DID YOU GET YOUR JOB?

Initially, I was offered this role through successful work on the Industrial Placement program at DHL in my third year at university. The application was a

Graduate Case Study

series of online tests, a couple of telephone interviews and an assessment centre, involving interviews, group exercises and presentations. This is a similar process if you were to apply to directly to the graduate scheme. Although it is a long and tough process, it is worth it for the feeling of self-accomplishment.

WHAT HAVE YOU LEARNT FROM BEING PART OF THE NOVUS SCHEME?

NOVUS has benefited me hugely, through the vast array of additional experience I've received. Firstly, I was mentored by a senior manager within a major technology retailer who, although he has moved on into a new role in a new business, keeps in touch to this day.

Whilst at university, I was given assistance with my projects from my mentor, which, as an inexperienced student, made all the difference in contributing to my grades.

Additionally, I was able to gain some summer work experience, where I was exposed to the work lifestyle. This ultimately gave me the confidence in applying for placements.

WHAT IS THE WORKING ENVIRONMENT LIKE ON A NOVUS COURSE?

NOVUS is a close-knit community of students in everyday university life, but NOVUS also enables the student to feel relaxed around senior management.

FIND OUT MORE AT:
WWW.NOVUS.UK.COM

Graduate Case Study

Constant networking events give exposure to the senior managers of blue chip companies that, otherwise, you would not meet until being in the workplace.

WHAT IS THE BEST PART OF YOUR JOB?

The best part of the job is the opportunity to see so many different parts of the business through the graduate network and the scheme structure. The parts of the business that are the most interesting are the ones that involve the customers, who are key to the success of DHL Supply Chain. This benefits me hugely and helps propel me into my desired career path.

WHAT NEW SKILLS HAVE YOU LEARNT IN YOUR JOB?

Due to the vast array of different roles I have taken on over the first eight months of my career, I have been able to develop many different skills. The main areas in which I have developed are people management, communication and assertiveness. These are everyday skills that are required in a competitive environment similar to the one I currently work in.

WHERE DO YOU SEE YOURSELF IN FIVE YEARS?

In five years, I expect to be at Head of Operations or potentially General Manager level, when looking at the career progression of previous graduates. Both of my previous line managers have been General Managers at relatively young age and I aim to be at the same level by the age of 29.

WHAT ADVICE WOULD YOU GIVE TO SOMEONE LOOKING TO GET A JOB LIKE YOURS?

The main advice from me would be that it is as important to be inclusive and to be a listener as it is to speak up. At assessment centres, there will be many people that are there to try and look the biggest by talking the most. This is the wrong way to approach logistics assessment centres, as the profession is about teamwork to the core.



More useful resources

Need more help with your career choices? You can find a wealth of advice and opportunities at the following places...



NOVUS

NOVUS, part of The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT UK) family, works with leading universities to provide students studying degrees in logistics with many benefits, including guaranteed graduate employment



THINK LOGISTICS

Think Logistics works to promote logistics and transport as an exciting career of choice and to attract, retain and develop talent to keep Great Britain moving for the benefit of our economy and society.



BIS HENDERSON ACADEMY

Bis Henderson Academy works with leading employers across the logistics and supply chain sector to provide apprenticeships in a wide range of roles.



BUSINESS ON THE MOVE

Business on the Move is an educational board game that introduces tomorrow's logisticians to the big picture of global supply chains in an interactive and enjoyable way.



CILT UK

The Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in the UK (CILT UK) is the membership organisation for professionals involved in the movement of goods and people and their associated supply chains



CAREER READY

Career Ready is a UK-wide organisation that links young people with the world of work, helping them develop the skills, confidence and behaviours needed to enjoy a successful future.



THEBIGCHOICE.COM

Find quality career advice and job opportunities via our youth careers portal.